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Agenda item 89

Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 15 and 17 September 2004, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled:

"Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006);

(b) Women in development;

(c) Industrial development cooperation."

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 32nd, 33rd, 37th and 40th meetings, on 15 and 16 November and 3 and 16 December 2004. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/59/SR.32, 33, 37 and 40). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 4 to 6 October (see A/C.2/59/SR.2-6). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be given in the addenda to the present report, as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in four parts, under the symbol A/59/487 and Add.1-3.

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Sub-item	*Addendum*
(a)	1
(b)	2
(c)	3

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

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Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

Letter dated 22 June 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/115);

Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Canada and Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/155-E/2004/96);

Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/158);

(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) and preparations for the International Year of Microcredit, 2005 (A/59/326 and Add.1);

(b) Women in development

Report of the Secretary-General on the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (A/59/287 and Add.1);

(c) Industrial development cooperation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of United Nations Industrial Development Organization on industrial development cooperation (A/59/138).

4. At the 32nd meeting, on 15 November, the reports were introduced by the Chief of the Social Perspective on Development Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (a)), the Director of the Division for Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-item (b)), and the Officer-in-Charge and Deputy Special Representative of the New York Office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (under sub-item (c)).

5. At the same meeting, pursuant to section C, paragraph 3 (d), of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, the Committee held a dialogue with the substantive representatives, during which comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of Burkina Faso and Chile (see A/C.2/59/SR.32).

6. Also at the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made a statement.

II. Consideration of proposals

Draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.56

7. At the 37th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Qatar, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Importance of further strengthening efforts towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the promotion of peace" (A/C.2/59/L.56). Subsequently, Andorra, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Turkey, joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recognizing* that development and peace are mutually supportive,

"*Recognizing also* the important contribution made, inter alia, by the efforts towards eradicating poverty and achieving long-term economic growth and sustainable development in the promotion of peace,

"1. *Underlines* the importance of further strengthening efforts towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the promotion of peace;

"2. *Recognizes* the special needs of developing countries in or emerging from conflict for technical, financial and other development assistance in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, in the promotion of peace;

"3. *Urges* that long-term social and economic development, in particular the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, be made an essential part of all peacebuilding activities of the United Nations;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session under the agenda item entitled 'Eradication of poverty and other development issues'."

8. At the 40th meeting, on 16 December, the representative of Qatar, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, made a statement in the course of which he withdrew draft resolution A/C.2/59/L.56.

9. At the same meeting, the representatives of Australia (also on behalf of Canada), the Netherlands (on behalf of the European Union) and Chile made statements.